



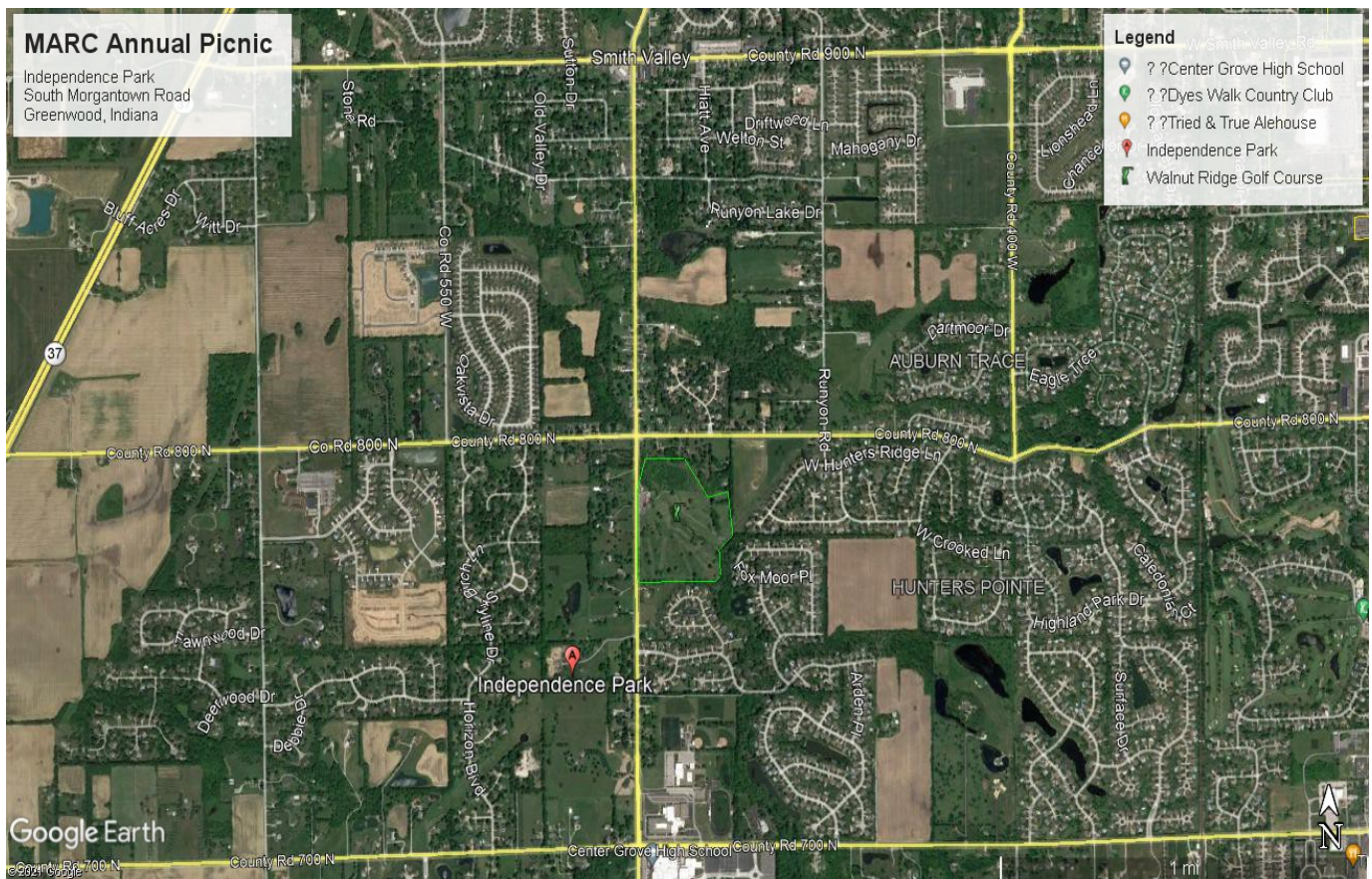
# Spark Gap

Vol. 38, Issue 9, September 2021 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for thirty-eight years*

## ***On Our MARC:***

This Saturday is our MARC Annual club picnic. It will be held at Independence Park in Greenwood, starting at 11 am at Case Shelter. Case Shelter is half way up the entrance road on the right. Parking at the shelter is limited, more parking is available at the top of the hill. Bring lawn chairs as picnic table space is limited as well. See you at the picnic.

Tim  
WC9G





## Birthdays for October

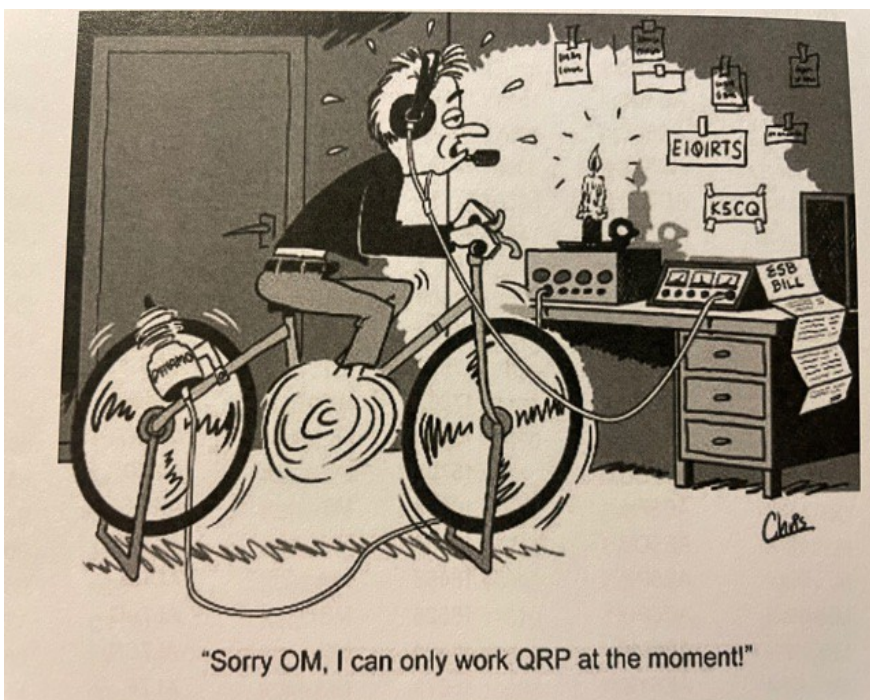
*WA9JGB ---- Grant Black*

*N9IKL ---- Dennis Ciurej*

*W9WMJ ---- William(Marty) Justis*

*W3BXS ---- Edward Kuespert*

*N9ACK ---- Matt Sprout*



"Sorry OM, I can only work QRP at the moment!"



## EARLY BIRD GETS THE DEAL

If you didn't attend the first MARC tailgate party you missed some great bargains on slightly used ham radio equipment. Antennas, tuners, amps and other accessories were available at bargain basement prices.



A dozen hams from five counties displayed time clocks, coax, scanners and lots of HF rigs. One buyer commented on how many good looking radios were available for sale. The quality of the rigs surpassed many of the larger hamfests. Event coordinator Bruce Tisdale, K9ICP, said over two dozen hams stopped by to shop and barter.



The swap meet was held in the parking lot of the Johnson county Prosecutor's Office at 1 Cassion Drive. Club President Tim Aldridge, WC9G set up an HF station and made many contacts while talking about the tailgate party.

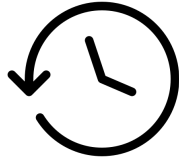
Nearly, Chris Frederick, KQ9Y supervised the club table where used club equipment and club members could display one or two items.



Thanks to club PIO, Jim Williams, N9EJR, for the advanced publicity. We look forward to making this an annual club event next year.

-Photos and story by Jack w8ish





**Mid-State Amateur Radio Club Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 836**  
**Franklin, IN 46131**



## **2021 September Historian Snapshot**

### **20 Years Ago (2001)**

- J. R. Osborne, KB9HSE, SK was President
- No minutes or Spark Gap for September 2001 so this information is from the April 2001 newsletter
- MARC just completed testing at the Columbus Hamfest with 6 new Technicians, 4 General and 3 Extras getting their tickets; Jerry Schantz was one of the Technicians
- Supper Club overseen by Joe Rogers, KF9LQ, SK, was up and running with dates and places set for the next several weeks
- MARC was running two contests with winners receiving a 1-year membership in the club. One was for best new MARC logo and the other was for best new name for the Spark Gap newsletter. Since the Spark Gap continues, I'm guessing no one could come up with anything better.

### **10 Years Ago (2011)**

- Steve Carmean, K9DY, was president
- No minutes were available for September 2011
- Nothing remarkable to report for this time period

### **5 Years Ago (2016)**

- Jacki Frederick, KI6QOG, was president
- No minutes were available for September 2016
- New website design was the big news in 2016
- Heartnut had just concluded
- An APRS class was on the agenda for the following month
- A new meeting location would begin in November 2016, the REMC headquarters in Franklin, Indiana

Respectfully submitted by,  
Linda Harshbarger, KC9GCH  
Club Historian

## **Next SpaceX Commercial Crew to ISS Comprised of Radio Amateurs**

Four radio amateurs will head to the International Space Station (ISS) aboard a commercial flight, thanks to Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS). They are Raja Chari, KI5LIU; Tom Marshburn, KE5HOC; Kayla Barron, KI5LAL, and Matthias Maurer, KI5KFH. As the most experienced space traveler, Maurer, who is a European Space Agency (ESA) Astronaut, could end up with a very heavy work schedule. The targeted launch date is no sooner than October 31, from Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

The launch will mark the third SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft and Falcon 9 rocket launch combination as part of NASA's Commercial Crew Program, which provides reliable and affordable transportation to and from the ISS. The crew is scheduled for a long-duration stay aboard the orbiting laboratory, living and working as part of what's expected to be a seven-member crew.

The launch will be the first spaceflight for Chari, Barron, and Maurer, and the third for Marshburn. The crew will complete a 6-month science mission aboard the microgravity laboratory in low-Earth orbit. NASA's SpaceX Crew-3 will be the third crew rotation mission with astronauts on an American rocket and spacecraft from the US to the space station and the fourth flight with astronauts, including the Demo-2 test flight in 2020, the Crew-1 mission in 2020-21, and the ongoing Crew-2 flight as part of the Expedition 65 crew.

Crew-3 astronauts plan to arrive at the station to overlap with NASA Astronauts Shane Kimbrough, KE5HOD, and Megan McArthur; Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Astronaut Akihiko Hoshide, KE5DNI, and ESA Astronaut Thomas Pesquet, KG5FYG, who flew to the station as part of the agency's SpaceX Crew-2 mission in April 2021.

Mission teams have a target launch date of no sooner than April 15, 2022, for the launch of NASA's SpaceX Crew-4 mission to the space station for a 6-month science mission. "NASA's Commercial Crew Program is working with industry through a public-private partnership to provide safe, reliable, and cost-effective transportation to and from the International Space Station, which will allow for additional research time and will increase the opportunity for discovery aboard humanity's testbed for exploration," NASA said. "The space station remains the springboard to space exploration, including future missions to the moon and Mars."

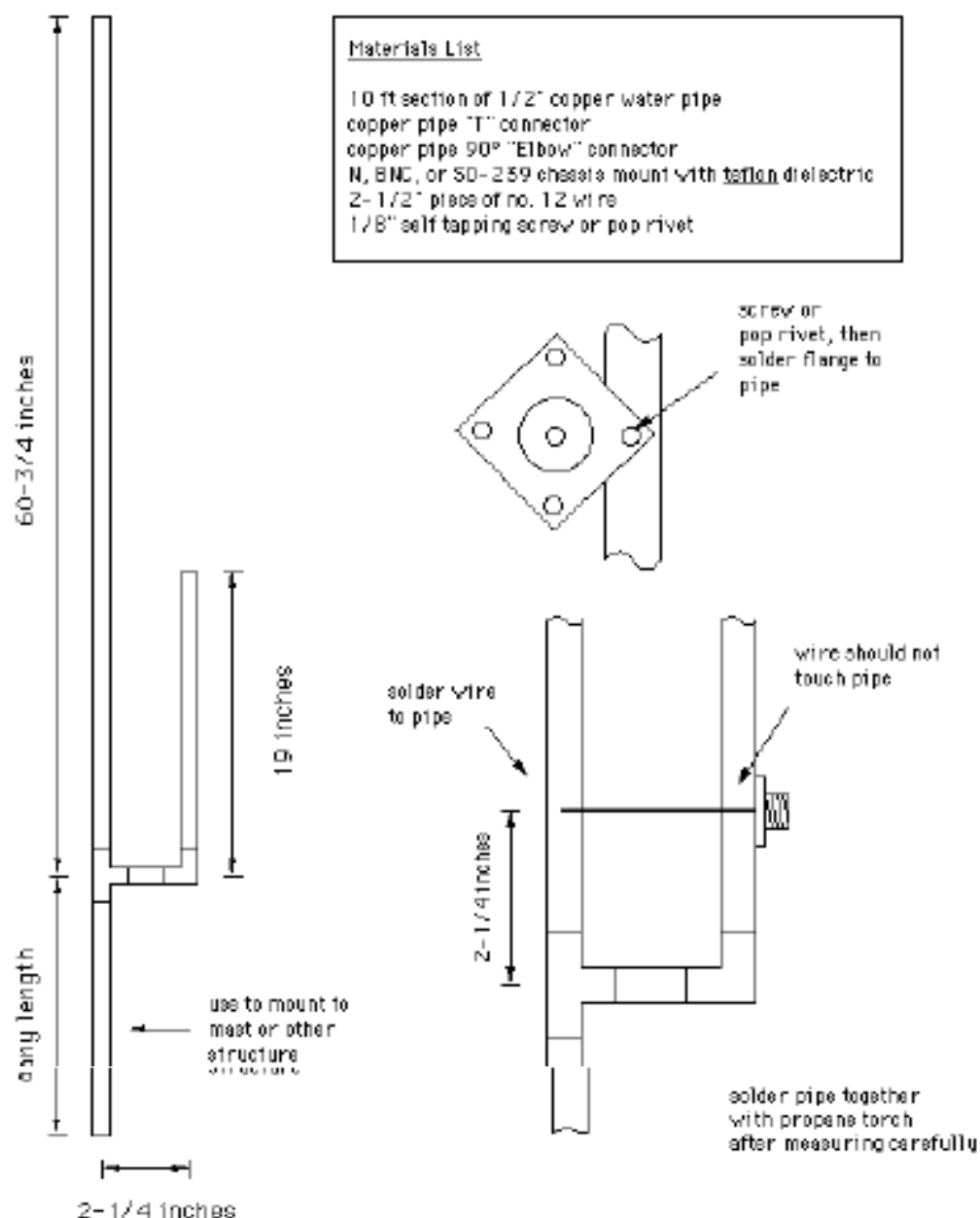
For launch coverage and more information about the mission, visit the NASA website.

## Dual band Cactus j-pole

This is a very easy and simple 2 meter/70cm vertical antenna. I built one of these myself and seems to work quit well. Just follow the instnctions like on the diagram and swr's should be good. These are also cheap to make and was passed on to me from another ham and i thought I would pass it on to everyone else who would like to try it. 73s Steve KB9HGI

### The Copper Cactus J-Pole

2 meter / 70 cm dual-band antenna



"73 Amateur Radio Today"  
February 1992

# 2021 Indiana ARRL Hamfest Schedule

**October 2**

**Hoosier Hills Ham Club Hamfest**

**Lawrence Co. 4H Fairgrounds**

**11265 US Hwy 50 W – Bedford, IN**

**[http://www.w9qyq.org/pdf/2021\\_Hamfest\\_Flyer.pdf](http://www.w9qyq.org/pdf/2021_Hamfest_Flyer.pdf)**

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**October 16**

**Shelbyville Tailgate Hamfest**

**Blue River Valley ARS**

**8 AM - 12 PM**

**Shelby Co Fairgrounds**

**500 Frank St. Shelbyville, IN**

**<http://www.brvars.com>**

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**OCTOBER 23**

**Hamtober Fest**

**7 AM - 2 PM CST**

**Lynnville Community Center**

**416 W ST RD IN-68 - Lynnville, IN**

**<http://www.w9og.net/hamtoberfest-hamfest-2021>**

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**November 13 & 14**

**Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo**

**2021 - ARRL - Central Division Convention**

**Allen County War Memorial Coliseum**

**4000 Parnell Ave – Fort Wayne**

**<http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>**

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**November 27**

**Wabash Valley ARA**

**Turkey Fest**

**8 am to 12 pm**

**Clay Co. Fairgrounds**

**6550 N SR IN 59 - Brazil, IN**

**[www.w9uuu.org/hamfest/turkeyfest\\_2021.pdf](http://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest/turkeyfest_2021.pdf)**

**Please support our Indiana Hamfests!**

**60<sup>TH</sup>** Annual

# **HOOSIER HILLS HAMFEST**

At the Lawrence County 4H Fairgrounds Near Bedford Indiana October 2, 2021

## **NOTICE: DATE OCTOBER 2ND 2021**

**Indoor Hamfest, All Vendors & Tailgating Inside & Outside**  
**Hourly DOOR PRIZES Including ARRL Store Gift Certificates**  
**Admission Price Still ONLY \$5 Per Person**

### **Vendor / Tailgate Set-Up**

Vendor Building Open 6am - 8am Saturday  
vendor / tailgate set-up only. Outside Tailgating  
Fee is \$5 plus admission Inside Vendor /  
Tailgating Fee is \$10 per table/space, plus  
admission Each 10' x 10' space includes 1 table  
"Quantity Discounts Available For Inside Only"

### **Hamfest Hours / Rules**

Gates open to the public at 8am Saturday  
Admission \$5 per person (under 12 FREE)

Ticket stubs must be placed in the barrel  
to have a chance of winning prizes

**ARRL VE Testing ~ Registration 9:30 - 10 am Test At 10 am Next To The Main Building**

**TALK IN ~ 146.73 MHz (-) PL 107.2**  
**W9QYQ Repeater**

Please Sign Up For Our Hamfest E-newsletter &  
Find The Latest Hamfest Information On Our  
Website: <http://www.w9qyq.org/hamfest>

Hamfest Chair: Nathan Lowery, KB9GMU  
Email: kb9gmu@gmail.com

Contact Person: W.W. Warren - KB9TMP  
For Information, Text or Call: 812.675.2450  
Or Email: [hamfest@w9qyq.org](mailto:hamfest@w9qyq.org)



**Hamfest Location 11265 U.S. Highway 50 West Mitchell Indiana 47446 – Please See Above Map**  
**For the very latest Hamfest News Please Visit: <http://www.w9qyq.org/hamfest>**



2021



Save the date!

# FORT WAYNE HAMFEST

November 13-14



## MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month  
at the Johnson County REMC 750 International Drive Franklin, IN 46131.  
*(When Normal Returns)*

See our website, [www.midstatehams.org](http://www.midstatehams.org), for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a *HAM* to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

### W9MID Repeater:

146.835/  
146.235 MHz  
(151.4 Hz PL Tone)

### Club Officers:

President: Tim Aldridge - WC9G  
Vice President: Jacki Frederick – KI6QOG  
Secretary: Chris Read – W9OQ  
Treasurer: Chris Mazzarella – KC9VGQ  
Repeater Trustee - Chris Frederick – KQ9Y

### W9MID Repeater:

443.525/  
448.525 MHz  
(151.4 Hz PL Tone)

Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS  
146.835/146.235 MHz (151.4 Hz PL Tone)

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 836  
Franklin, Indiana  
46131

Spark Gap Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

Please send your articles to my email: [n9siu@yahoo.com](mailto:n9siu@yahoo.com) no later than the 2nd week of the month.



Thanks to the New Hope Church for the use of their building for meetings and testing.